1847MNRAS...7..256R

No. 7648 British Association Catalogue, corrected by Professor Challis's meridian observations.

Mean Place Jan. 1, 1846. A.R. $21^{h}\ 50^{m}\ 5^{s}{\cdot}94$ Dec. $-13^{\circ}\ 23'\ 55''{\cdot}5$

The last two places of the planet depend on ∗ in Bessel's zones, 9 mag.

Mean Place Jan. 1, 1846. A.R. $22^{h}\ 2^{m}\ 1^{s}{\cdot}25$ Dec. $-13^{\circ}\ 5'\ 22''{\cdot}5$

Occultation of VENUS.

HAMBURG. (M. Rümker.)

			Hamburg M.T. h m s
1847.	Mar. 17	First Contact	22 54 21·8
		Middle of Disc	54 31·8
		Complete Immersion	54 46·9

*Observations of Hind's Second Comet in full Sunshine.**

By Mr. Hind.

"I take the liberty to send you two positions of the comet discovered here Feb. 6, obtained yesterday in full daylight, and about five hours before the perihelion passage. The visibility of a comet in the daytime, and within 2° distance from the sun, is a phenomenon of so rare occurrence, that it may in some measure interest you if I give very briefly the particulars of our observations.

"I had determined, by theory, that the intensity of light on March 30 ought to be 100 times stronger than that of a star of fourth magnitude, and was induced to make preparations for a daylight observation. I first saw the comet about 11 A.M. When the sky was perfectly cloudless about the sun, it had a whitish appearance, which rendered it a matter of no little difficulty to see the comet, but during the passage of some cumuli clouds over the sun, and between the breaks, I obtained some excellent views of the comet, and several observations, which will no doubt be of great assistance in the accurate determination of the elements. The nucleus was nearly, if not perfectly, round, beautifully defined and planetary, the diameter 8″ or 10″. Two faint branches of light formed a divided tail, extending about 40″ from the head, like two longish erect ears or horns rising from each side of the disc. At times I felt certain that the nucleus *twinkled*. The tail resembled a thin smoke.

"With respect to the observations for position, I can only add that they were as good as could possibly be made, under the circum-

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* The comet was seen at noon near the sun by two other observers, at Truro and in the Isle of Anglesey.

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1847MNRAS...7..257.

stances, by instrumental comparisons. The index errors are very constant, and were accurately determined last evening.

	Greenwich M.T.	Comet's R.A.	Comet's Dec.	Weight.
	h m s	° ′ ″	° ′ ″	
March 30	1 23 40	7 32 27	+1 48 42	1
	1 55 8	7 33 56	+1 45 21	2

In the observations for the first position the centre of the field was estimated, and 9 single results are tolerably accordant. The second place depends on one good observation with cross wires, clouds preventing any further comparisons.

" Had the sky been free from the whiteness which is so fatal to vision by daylight, I should have obtained much better places.

" I communicated an ephemeris to Mr. Dawes, who has observed the comet with extreme care, but I do not know at present whether he saw it yesterday in daylight."

Observations of HIND's *Second Comet.*

BERLIN.

(Prof. Encke and Dr. Galle.)

	Berlin M.T.	R.A.	Dec.
	h m s	° ′ ″	° ′ ″
March 16	8 24 7·6	2 22 30·5	+34 30 52·8
17	8 15 45·7	2 55 56·2	32 53 35·0
18	8 12 18·3	3 28 6·1	31 11 47·5
19	8 4 49·9	3 58 14·1	29 25 39·5
22	7 58 36·7	5 19 47·0	+23 34 4·4

BONN.

(Prof. Argelander and M. Schmidt.)

	Bonn M.T.	R.A.	Dec.
	h m s	° ′ ″	° ′ ″
Feb. 19	12 53 56·1	339 57 31·4	+62 26 37·0
20	12 25 26·1	341 13 51·8	61 38 1·1
21	9 5 54·6	342 19 30·1	60 54 31·4
23	7 52 11·7	344 40 43·7	59 12 27·2
	10 6 2·7	344 46 43·6	59 7 34·6
24	7 35 58·0	345 48 27·4	58 18 52·5
28	7 39 47·0	350 1 45·5	54 29 48·4
	10 11 5·0	350 7 53·2	54 23 33·1
March 1	8 20 56·2	351 1 46·4	53 27 35·7
5	8 48 14·9	354 37 56·0	+49 8 43·0

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